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WAR DEPARTMENT

BASIC FIELD MANUAL



Volume X

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

Part Three

**EXAMINATION OF ENEMY PERSONNEL,
REPATRIATES, DOCUMENTS, AND MATÉRIEL**

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BASIC FIELD MANUAL



Volume X MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

Part Three EXAMINATION OF ENEMY PERSONNEL, REPATRIATES, DOCUMENTS, AND MATÉRIEL

Prepared under direction of the
Chief of Staff



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BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

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(II)

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BASIC FIELD MANUAL

VOLUME X, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

PART THREE

EXAMINATION OF ENEMY PERSONNEL, REPATRIATES, DOCUMENTS, AND MATÉRIEL

SECTION I

GENERAL

1. Purpose.—*a.* This manual sets forth the fundamental principles and the prescribed procedure to be followed in the examination of personnel, documents, and matériel. It is prescribed as a guide for all concerned in order that these sources of information may be fully utilized, that each echelon of command may understand its proper function in the examination, and that the examination may be properly conducted in accordance with the urgency of the information to be obtained.

b. Since the enemy will certainly use a system similar to that described in this manual, it is also prescribed as a guide for the instruction of all ranks in the harm that may result to our own forces by carelessness with documents or by talking if captured. With the object of defeating the system set up by the enemy, all personnel in the theater of operations will be instructed to destroy personal documents immediately after receipt, to limit official documents to the absolute minimum necessary for successful operations, and to destroy these when capture is imminent. *All officers and men will be informed that in case of capture they are required to give only their name, grade, and serial number.* Any additional information will harm our own cause and aid that of the enemy.

2. Function of the intelligence service.—*a.* The examination of prisoners or other enemy personnel and documents is an operative function of the intelligence service. In the regiment and higher organizations, the work is performed by specially selected and trained intelligence personnel. The information from these sources is turned over to the appropriate intelligence office where it is evaluated and interpreted in connection with

information received from other sources and then disseminated in accordance with instructions contained in part one, Basic Field Manual, volume X.

b. The examination of prisoners and documents should be closely coordinated with other intelligence activities in the search for information, and the personnel engaged therein should be thoroughly familiar with the intelligence plan and the essential elements of information of the unit to which they pertain. The examining personnel and translators should also be as thoroughly trained in all phases of intelligence as time will permit, and in the course of operations they should be kept fully informed concerning the enemy's organization, staff procedure, plans, activities, order of battle, artillery, fortifications, and movements. Facilities should be provided for this preliminary study and preparation. In no other way can the best results be accomplished.

c. If the situation demands that certain information reach higher headquarters at the earliest moment, for example, during an attack or a raid, it is frequently desirable to send forward to the regimental collecting point an interpreter with instructions to conduct the necessary examination on the spot without previous questioning by the regimental intelligence officer.

3. **Examinations.**—*a. By whom conducted.*—In general, all examinations are conducted by intelligence officers or assistant intelligence officers. This does not, however, preclude examinations by captors or lower echelons of command not provided with intelligence officers but, if conducted at all, these examinations will be limited to those items of information directly useful to the lower unit and which it is capable of exploiting at once.

b. *Phases.*—The examination to develop information is made in two phases:

(1) To establish identifications and develop information of immediate tactical importance to the unit commander.

(2) To develop strategical or general military or economic information of value to the higher echelons of command.

c. *Examining agencies.*—(1) The first phase of the examination is made in all echelons of command from the battalion to the corps with the exception of the brigade. Brigades, unless acting alone or independently, have no function in this

examination but may send intelligence agents forward to regimental collecting points to obtain information.

(2) The second phase of the examination is made by the army or theater headquarters. The group of armies has no function in this examination.

4. References.

Part one, Staff Officers' Field Manual.

Field Service Regulations.

Part two, Basic Field Manual, volume VII.

Basic Field Manual, volume IX.

Part one, Basic Field Manual, volume X.

SECTION II

ENEMY PERSONNEL

5. **General.**—*a.* The provisions of this section are particularly applicable to the examination of prisoners of war but, with suitable modification, may be used as a guide in the examination of all classes of personnel.

b. Prisoners of war are one of the most fruitful sources of information. They are witnesses from within the enemy's lines who have seen and heard. Their systematic and methodical examination is highly important. Enemy civilian personnel are of less importance as a source of information because they are not trained observers. Nevertheless, as a possible source of information they must not be overlooked.

6. **Limitations.**—*The examination of enemy personnel in the various commands will be strictly limited to those items of immediate importance to the commander concerned.* Early and complete examination of enemy personnel by untrained officers or enlisted men will accomplish no useful purpose and will delay and probably frustrate later examination in the higher commands.

7. **Object.**—The object of the examination is to determine the enemy's intentions and other information of immediate tactical importance to the lower echelons of command, the order of battle, morale, tactical and technical methods of the hostile army, the manpower and economic conditions in the enemy country, and other information of primary importance to the higher command.

8. **Qualifications of examiner.**—Intelligence personnel who examine prisoners of war should be well grounded in the language, history, political organization, geography, customs, and habits of the hostile country and familiar with the intellectual, economic, financial, political, religious, and social life thereof, and with any racial differences that may exist therein. They should know many details about the various parts of the enemy country, understand the aspirations of the different racial and political groups, be able to converse with prisoners about their trades and occupations, and be capable of using the native dialect and military slang.

a. Military qualifications.—In addition to the general cultural background, the examiner must have a thorough and detailed knowledge of military terms, organization, armament, tactics and methods of combat, logistics, and intelligence methods of the enemy army and of each particular arm and service. To this knowledge of the enemy must be added a profound knowledge of the organization, methods of combat, and intelligence procedure of our own Army.

b. Investigational qualifications.—In addition to general and military qualifications, the examiner must be expert in cross-examination, conscientious, and persevering. He must have a keen insight into the minds of others and, with experience, should acquire a flair and aptitude for his work—qualities upon which depend in large measure the results of examination.

9. **Coercion.**—*a.* In accordance with the Geneva Convention of 1929, to which the United States subscribed, no coercion may be used on prisoners or other personnel to obtain information relative to the state of their army or country; and prisoners or others who refuse to answer may not be threatened, insulted, or exposed to unpleasant or disadvantageous treatment of any kind. The rules adopted at the Geneva Convention do not prohibit the *examination* of prisoners or others, and provision will always be made for such examination.

b. Coercion is not the most effective method of obtaining information from prisoners. If an examiner fails to obtain information by such means, as is generally the case, he immediately finds himself in a condition of moral inferiority with respect to the prisoner. A cigarette or a cup of coffee will frequently elicit more accurate and important information than threats. Humane treatment does not imply loss of dignity or lack of military bearing on the part of the examiner; it indicates an under-

standing of human nature to which the prisoner will generally respond. Placed in the proper frame of mind and aided by a map, chart, or sketch to help orient himself physically and mentally, the average prisoner will talk. False rumor within the enemy ranks concerning brutal treatment of prisoners by our forces will inevitably react to our benefit if humane treatment is accorded them when captured.

10. **The examination.**—*a.* At each echelon of command, enemy personnel will be examined individually and those examined will be kept separated from those remaining to be examined. When time and facilities permit, a brief of the prisoner's statements will accompany him to the rear for the purpose of assisting the intelligence officers at the higher headquarters in further examination. (See par. 13 *a.*)

b. In the more rapidly moving situations it may be necessary to modify the system of examination prescribed herein. At such times the initiative and ingenuity of all ranks will be taxed to the maximum; nevertheless, information derived from the examination of prisoners must continue to be obtained. It may become necessary to send intelligence officers forward to get the needed information, and plans should be made accordingly. Equally important is getting the information back while maintaining close contact with the advancing units. If wire communication has not been established and radio is not available, use should be made of messengers or carrier pigeons.

c. Examination parallels the system of evacuation.—(1) The examination of enemy military personnel parallels the system of evacuation and constitutes an incident of evacuation. The final examination is conducted by the army at the army prisoner of war enclosure or by theater headquarters at the central prisoner of war enclosure.

(2) Commanders of escorts and prisoner of war installations, and commanders of medical installations and graves registration units will cooperate closely with intelligence officers and facilitate in every way possible the expeditious accomplishment of the examination. Subject to modification to meet the particular situation, the prescribed system of evacuation for enemy personnel is shown in figure 1.

(3) Every effort will be made to expedite the transfer of prisoners from the front to the rear. The intelligence officer at each echelon, however, is responsible for deciding when an examination has been completed.

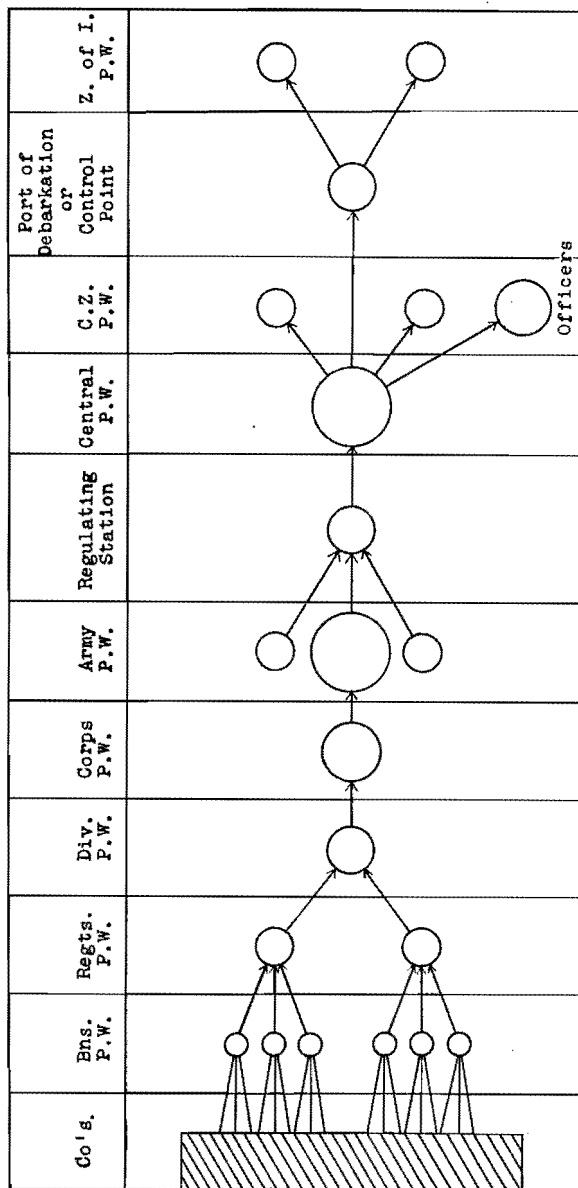


FIGURE 1.—Evacuation of prisoners of war.

d. If the prisoners captured are so numerous that the examination of all is impracticable, only identifications and numbers will be noted and selected individuals briefly examined in the lower echelons. If practicable, officer prisoners will always be searched immediately after capture. The systematic search of enlisted prisoners will begin at the battalion collecting point if numbers permit, but in no case farther to the rear than the division collecting point.

e. In rapidly moving situations, there may be occasions when it will be impracticable for intelligence personnel of the lower echelons to make immediate examination of prisoners. In such situations they will be handled as prescribed in paragraph 70, Basic Field Manual, volume IX.

11. **Action by unit effecting capture.**—*a. Segregation of military personnel by classes.*—Immediately after capture, or as soon thereafter as possible, enemy officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates will be separated. They will be examined separately and kept in separate detachments or groups while on the way to the rear and in enclosures.

b. Disposition of effects.—Individuals or units effecting the capture of prisoners will permit them to retain steel helmets, gas masks, identification tags, insignia of rank, decorations, money, and objects of value. If time permits, all papers, maps, and documents of every kind will be appropriated and given to the guard for delivery with the prisoners at the regimental collecting point.

c. Procedure in front line units or units effecting capture.—

(1) *Enemy dead.*—Identifications will be determined and, if possible, all documents will be secured. Any remaining documents will be collected by the graves registration unit at the time of interment.

(2) *Wounded prisoners.*—Identifications will be established from wounded prisoners and, if practicable, all documents found on them will be appropriated. If their physical condition permits, a brief examination may be made by intelligence officers to develop tactical information of immediate importance.

(3) *Unwounded prisoners.*—Unwounded prisoners will be disarmed immediately and rushed to the battalion collecting point where, if time permits, they will be searched and examined briefly for identification and information of immediate importance to the front line units; for example, items concerning the location of a machine gun, sniper post, or observation post. If

the enemy speaks a different language, even this brief examination will generally be impracticable. *No attempt will be made to develop complete information.* Battalions will forward prisoners under guard to regimental collecting points and will telephone *immediately information concerning new identifications.* This information will be passed along the channels of command to theater headquarters.

12. Responsibility of guards.—Guards conducting prisoners to the rear will prevent them from talking and will deliver all captured documents placed in their care to higher headquarters. When it has been impracticable to search the prisoners prior to their evacuation, the guard will be directed to prevent the destruction of documents en route.

13. Procedure at regimental collecting points.—*a. During a period of stabilization.*—(1) In the vicinity of the regimental command post is the regimental collecting point where identifications will be checked and a brief examination conducted by the regimental intelligence officer, assisted by an enlisted interpreter, to develop tactical information of immediate importance to the regiment; for example, items concerning the organization and strength of the enemy's front line and any signs of impending attack or withdrawal. Prisoners should be questioned without unnecessary delay before they have had a chance to become composed and prepare their answers. It is at this stage of the examination that the examiner can bring fully into play his psychological sense and understanding of human nature, for at such a time the prisoners are at a distinct disadvantage.

(2) If the prisoners are numerous, the intelligence officer will question thoroughly only a few of the more intelligent who are likely to have information of value, such as observers, messengers, or liaison agents.

(3) The regimental intelligence officer will report to division headquarters the number of prisoners; the company, battalion, and regiment to which they belong; and the place and time of capture. The form shown in *b* below is suggested for this purpose.

(4) Tactical orders and maps found on the prisoners or turned over by the guard will be examined briefly for information of vital and immediate importance to the regiment. After this brief examination all documents pertaining to each prisoner should be tied together in one package, to which should be attached a résumé of his statements made during the examination. The following form is suggested:

Organization				Résumé of statements
INFORMATION FROM PRISONER OR DESERTER (Line out one)				
Place	Date	Hour		
Last name	First name	Middle initial	Serial No.	
Grade	Company	Battalion	Regiment Division	
Where captured	Date and hour of capture			
Signature				

b. During a period of active operations.—(1) During a period of active operations the regimental intelligence officer will not have time to supervise all details relative to prisoners. Ordinarily it will be possible only to group the prisoners according to organization and then divide each group into three subgroups consisting of officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates, and list the number in each subgroup of each organization with place and time of capture. For this purpose the following form is suggested:

Organization						REPORT OF PRISONERS CAPTURED		
Place			Date	Hour		Where captured	When captured	Important items of information
Number of prisoners			Organization					
Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Privates	Company	Battalion	Regiment			

Signature

formation should be distrusted. They generally give false information.

(4) After the sorting has been completed the prisoners should be conducted into the appropriate cages designated for those not yet examined. As they pass in, usually through a turnstile, an interpreter familiar with recruiting terms makes a record of each prisoner on the following form:

Place		RECORD OF PRISONERS RECEIVED DURING THE PERIOD					
Date and hour		to					
Last name	First name	Date of birth	Grade and organization	Date of induction	Number of draft	Civilian occupation	Wounds or diseases

Signature

(5) The officers should be examined as early as practicable after they are admitted to the cages and should be followed by the other prisoners selected by the intelligence officer at the time of sorting.

(6) The examination should be conducted as privately and secretly as possible in a special room set aside for the purpose. This will make it easier for the prisoner to talk without fear of denunciation or reprisal by his comrades. Only the examiner, his assistant, and the prisoner to be examined should be present.

(7) Prisoners who have been examined should be separated from those remaining to be examined. It is frequently desirable to place some of them in a room provided with a dictograph and containing a few intelligence agents.

b. Preparation for the examination.—In order that he may understand the personality, mentality, education, and civilian and military experience of a prisoner before the examination,

the intelligence officer should study carefully all available data concerning the prisoner before he is brought into the examination room and should formulate a plan for the interrogation. This study should include an examination of the documents found on the prisoner, the reports of examinations at lower echelons of command, the statements made by the prisoner at the time he was turned in at the cage, and the history of his unit. Familiarity with conditions in the prisoner's organization enables the examiner to exploit fully the prisoner's pride, vanity, self-esteem, or pusillanimity. To develop additional information for use during the examination, it may also be desirable to place agents in the prisoner of war enclosure or cage for the purpose of gaining information to be used as a check on the accuracy of the statements of the prisoner and to assist the examining officer.

c. Conduct of examination.—(1) The examination should be carefully prepared. If given in a routine, perfunctory manner it will ordinarily accomplish nothing. It should have a definite purpose which is not simply making of record certain statements, but the determination of the enemy's projected operations or facts bearing upon the essential elements of information or upon conditions in the hostile army and country. The information desired may be revealed by some simple detail. The examiner should, therefore, have in mind the whole series of minor events which checked against each other may prove an hypothesis or suggest a procedure to be followed in making additional examinations.

(2) The examiner should be careful to maintain a military manner and attitude during the examination and should show evidence of character and energy. He should exact of the examined a correct and deferential attitude without resorting to severity.

(3) Certain prisoners remain silent or lie in their first answers, while others, encouraged by the complaisance of the examiner, give a flood of improvised information sometimes unconsciously suggested to them. Others, however, may be led progressively, by insidious questions and ingenious repetitions, to give unknowingly precisely the information desired. Sometimes the examiner must suggest the false in order to bring out the true. He should not repeat the examination conducted in the lower echelons but should confirm the main facts previously ascertained without going into the details.

(4) The examiner should have a tentative list of questions prepared, but should neither refer to it nor make notes during the interrogation. He should observe the methods of correct examination developed by recognized law enforcement agencies where neither physical nor moral compulsion is employed. He should avoid useless discussions and judge from the first few words what is to be learned from the prisoner. Great care should be exercised in asking important questions. They should be inserted among routine questions, and the examiner should ask the important questions quite casually. It will frequently be advisable to ask several questions to which the answers are already known, inserting among these the important question to which the answer is not known. It is frequently advisable to make the prisoner believe that the official interrogation is over and to engage him in ordinary conversation, only to work back to the important question. There is nothing that gives more power or prestige to the examiner than to prove to a prisoner that he is not telling the truth. It will be found advantageous to act in such a way that the prisoner does not realize which question is the one to which a precise answer is desired; for example, by deliberately insisting upon certain points which are of no importance but which are made to appear important while posing the important question and making it appear of no particular importance and as having been asked only for good measure. All questions, regardless of their importance, should be precisely and accurately stated.

(5) It is frequently advisable for the examiner to assist the prisoner by making available to him a map, sketch, or aerial photograph from which he should be required to give an account of his movements. This procedure will assist him in recalling what he has seen and may also contribute to the final interpretation of an aerial photograph by clearing up details relative to enemy organization. It may even be desirable to take the prisoner to an observation post from which he can see the terrain and give precise information on points that need clarification.

(6) The examiner should conduct the examination in an objective manner. He should avoid rushing into a course of interrogation with a preconceived idea and attempt to make the prisoner say what he would like him to say. He should maintain an impartial and judicial attitude, without having in mind only the verification of a vague hypothesis. He should attempt to determine the truth. He must be sure of his grounds

before resorting to suggestion, as that may lead the prisoner into saying unconsciously and in good faith what is not true. On the other hand, the examiner must weigh and evaluate the accuracy of the prisoner's statements against the probabilities of error, misrepresentation, or hearsay. It is important to compare the statements of one prisoner with those of another and with information gathered from other sources. The examiner should also be on the alert and prepared to shift the course of the investigation if it takes an unexpected turn. He should not ask a prisoner for more than he can reasonably be expected to know.

(7) It is important to distinguish between what prisoners report they have seen and what they have heard. The statements of a prisoner are of greatest importance when he is talking of affairs or events in which he has participated. Many times, judging from facts already brought out in the examination, it may be determined that it would have been impossible for the prisoner to have seen or done the things he claims. Because of their greater familiarity with events, the statements of officers are of greater importance than those of enlisted men but are more likely to be false.

(8) Should enemy personnel having expert knowledge of artillery, tanks, communication, chemical, or aviation be available for examination, the examiner may request that an officer of the arm or service concerned be assigned to assist him.

d. Questions for final examination.—No list of questions can be prepared much in advance of the time of examination, as such a list will necessarily depend upon the information desired at the particular time. Theater headquarters will outline from time to time lists of questions for the final examination of personnel of the various arms and services. The questions actually used will vary with the information available to the person examined and the prisoner's mentality, willingness to tell the truth, and physical reaction to capture. As an indication the following list of subject headings is given:

(1) *General.*

Identification.

Circumstances of capture and location.

Order of battle.

Historical sketch of unit.

Position occupied.

Troop locations.

Officers of each echelon; name, training, and ability.
Camps in rear areas.

Supplies.

Food supply in the enemy country and army.

Railways.

Strength of units.

Losses.

Effect of our artillery.

Reinforcements received.

Effect of our chemicals.

Units in rear.

Enemy intentions.

Tanks of both sides.

Effect of our aviation.

Life of the enemy soldier.

Propaganda of both sides.

Morale of soldiers.

Morale in the enemy country.

Enemy treatment of prisoners.

Transportation.

Use of chemicals by the enemy.

Miscellaneous.

(2) *Infantry.*

Officers: Age, number, reserve, regular, promotion, and efficiency.

Noncommissioned officers: How trained and selected, duties, and efficiency.

Company: Strength, combat units, and armament.

Battalion: Staff, types of companies, machine guns, other arms, tactics, communication, trains, and special equipment.

Regiment: Staff, organization, special arms, strength, replacements, special troops, and assault units.

Armament.

Uniforms and individual equipment.

Defensive tactics.

Offensive tactics.

Communication.

Use of arms.

Training.

Cooperation with other arms.

Cooperation with aviation.

(3) *Artillery.*

Guns in battery: Kinds, number, and equipment.

Number of batteries in regiment.

Kinds of guns in other batteries.

Other batteries attached from time to time.

Location of batteries, outposts, and other installations.

Types of emplacements and camouflage.

Methods of fire direction.

Frequency of change of position.

Use of alternate positions.

Use of accompanying and roving guns.

Antitank guns.

Amount of ammunition stocked at battery.

Time and method of ammunition replenishment.

Effect of our counterbattery fire.

Method of transport.

Recent movement of artillery in and out of the sector.

Number of regiments of artillery in the division.

Ammunition trains.

Types of ammunition and status of supply.

Chemicals.

Shells fired per battery; average per day.

Limitation on ammunition for protective fires.

Aviation units cooperating.

Nature of aviation cooperation.

(4) *Engineers.*

Personnel.

Employment as infantry or for engineering purposes.

Matériel and equipment.

Training.

Duties performed, where and when.

Defensive positions organized.

Demolitions and obstacles, including tank obstacles and road blocks.

Condition of communication in the rear areas.

Kinds of maps provided troops.

(5) *Cavalry, horsed or mechanized.*

Mission.

Location of parent organization and time of departure therefrom.

Limits of zone of operations.

Mission of parent organization.

- Route of march during the last several days.
 - Condition of streams, bridges, and roads traversed.
 - Last bivouac of parent organization and own unit.
 - Armament: Mortars, antitank, antiaircraft, mines, and machine guns of the unit.
 - Mechanized elements included in horse cavalry units.
 - Nature of trains: Motorized, horse-drawn, or pack.
 - Mechanized units observed: Location, type of equipment, strength, and direction of march.
 - Attached artillery: Type, caliber, strength, and motive power.
 - Enemy aviation: Strength, location, and when observed.
 - Method and adequacy of supply.
 - Condition of mounts or mechanized vehicles.
 - Strength, location, and direction of march of infantry units to which attached.
 - Under whose orders operating.
 - Organization on the right and left.
- (6) *Aviation.*
- Mission.
 - Number of planes engaged in mission.
 - Location and size, ground and air personnel of squadron and adjacent squadrons.
 - Number and types, same type or mixed, of aircraft in squadron.
 - Location of group and higher headquarters.
 - Habitual missions of unit.
 - Methods of cooperating with other air units and with ground troops.
 - Air training: Method of selecting personnel, availability of qualified applicants for flying training, number and location of flying schools, number of students, and length and character of courses given.
 - Combat and other flying experience subsequent to flying schools.
 - Supply and replacements at the schools and at the front.
 - Method of distribution on dispersed airdromes.
 - Method of supply and maintenance of aircraft.
 - Relations between flying and maintenance personnel.
 - Higher organization of air force.
 - Name, model, type, and characteristics of aircraft flown.
 - Photography.

- Photographic equipment.
 - Suitability of equipment.
 - Shortage of equipment.
 - Average amount of flying per day per individual.
 - Effect of our antiaircraft weapons.
- (7) *Antiaircraft.*
- Organization of units: Size, composition, and equipment.
 - Enemy methods of passive defense against aircraft.
 - Armament: Types of guns, automatic, cannon, or machine guns of unit.
 - Other equipment: Motor vehicles, searchlights, data-computing and data-transmitting devices.
 - Details and principles of operation of position-finding equipment.
 - Ammunition supply.
 - Types of ammunition used by various weapons.
 - Methods of locating aerial targets at night.
 - Organization, operation, and effectiveness of enemy aircraft warning service.
 - Coordination of antiaircraft artillery with aviation and other arms.
- (8) *Tanks and mechanization.*
- Matériel.
 - Armament.
 - Methods of reconnaissance.
 - Tactics.
 - Effect of our antimechanization weapons.
 - Organization.
 - Training.
- (9) *Chemical warfare.*
- Units.
 - Attachment.
 - Munitions.
 - Gas discipline.
 - Protective equipment.
- e. Reports of examination.*—Immediate oral reports will be made by telephone to army or theater headquarters of any important change in previous reports or of any new developments. A complete written report in the form of a substantial résumé of information developed during the examination, together with the examiner's opinion as to its credibility, should follow.

The written report, usually covering a period of 24 hours, is made in the evening and immediately dispatched to the G-2 office concerned.

17. Prisoners from enemy aviation and mechanization.—a. Aviation personnel and parachute drops.—Any military unit may become the collecting agency for enemy aviation personnel or personnel dropped by parachutes. The unit making the capture will at once post a guard over the airplane to prevent souvenir hunters and the curious from destroying it, collect all documents, report the capture through the nearest intelligence office to the army or theater headquarters by the most expeditious means of communication available, and send the prisoners and documents to the army or theater headquarters for examination.

b. Mechanized personnel.—Because of its great maneuverability and wide radius of action, an enemy mechanized force may strike deep into the territory under the control of our own forces. This is especially true in the early phases of operations. Proper defensive measures should result in the capture of personnel and equipment by either combat units or line of communication troops. In that event, report will be made to army or theater headquarters by the most expeditious means of communication available, and the prisoners and captured documents forwarded to the nearest intelligence officer for examination.

18. Enemy deserters.—a. General.—Deserters from enemy lines usually arrive during periods of quiet or just prior to an attack. They gladly volunteer information in the hope that they will receive better treatment than other prisoners of war. Escaped prisoners, if recaptured near the front, are likely to pose as deserters.

b. Treatment.—Enemy deserters will be examined in the various echelons of command in the same manner as other prisoners. They will be encouraged to talk and give their reasons for desertion.

c. Notation on report.—The enemy will do everything in his power to gain surprise. Accordingly, he may be expected to plant fake deserters bearing false documents. In making out reports of examination of deserters, intelligence officers will, therefore, note at the head of such a report "Information from deserter" in order that false information may be more easily checked and frustrated.

19. Enemy civilians.—During an advance in enemy territory, intelligence officers will examine enemy civilians for information regarding the enemy forces which occupied the evacuated area. Local officials and intelligent citizens, such as preachers or priests, teachers, postmasters, and stationmasters, will generally furnish the most reliable information.

SECTION III

OWN AND ALLIED PERSONNEL

20. General.—Escaped prisoners of war, recaptured units or individuals, and repatriated civilians of our own and allied countries frequently have information of value to our forces which they are not only willing but anxious to divulge.

21. Examination.—In general the examination of our own and allied military personnel and repatriated civilian personnel will follow the same procedure as that prescribed for enemy personnel. However, the willingness of our own nationals to talk will facilitate and speed the examination.

a. Military personnel.—(1) *By military units.*—Military units will immediately report the arrival of our own or allied military personnel which have been in the hands of the enemy to the unit intelligence officer, who will conduct examination for identifications and for information of immediate tactical importance to the unit concerned. If the personnel pertains to his own unit, they will be returned to their proper organizations; otherwise they will be directed to report to the intelligence officer of the next higher headquarters.

(2) *By higher headquarters.*—Repatriated military personnel sent to higher headquarters will be further examined for information of special interest to the higher echelons of command before being returned to their proper organizations.

b. Friendly civilians.—(1) Friendly civilians may come into the control of our forces or become available to our agents through the reconquest of territory lately held by the enemy or after passing through a neutral country. Though not trained observers, they may furnish much information of value, especially to the higher command. Reconnaissance detachments, patrols, front line units, and intelligence officers of all echelons will conduct examinations to develop information of importance to their particular units, reporting the results of

their examinations to the next higher echelon. Army or theater headquarters will conduct the final examination if it is deemed necessary.

(2) Military attachés in neutral countries will make every effort to examine our own or allied military personnel and friendly civilians who have escaped from or traveled in the enemy country. A form for the examination will be furnished the appropriate military attachés by the theater or general headquarters. Important items of information will be reported in code by telegraph, cable, or radio direct to the theater commander.

SECTION IV

CAPTURED DOCUMENTS

22. Definition.—As used in this manual the term "document" includes maps; sketches, photographs; orders; tactical and technical manuals and instructions; code books; war diaries; newspapers; notebooks; service records; pay rolls; shoulder straps or other identifying marks on uniforms and individual equipment; post cards and letters; the records of headquarters, post and telegraph offices, telephone exchanges, banks, police stations, and municipal and government offices; and anything else of a similar class that may contain information relative to the hostile army or country.

23. Personal collections forbidden.—*The personal appropriation of documents is strictly forbidden. It is highly important that all documents be promptly turned in to the proper unit commander or intelligence officer for as a whole they contain information of great importance to our forces.*

24. Object.—When systematically examined by trained personnel, captured documents constitute one of the principal sources of information available to a commander regarding the enemy order of battle, plans, morale, manpower, economic conditions, organization, armament, tactical and technical methods, methods of instruction, and many other subjects. All classes of documents will be examined at appropriate echelons of command with the object of developing therefrom all possible information of the enemy army and country. At the army and theater headquarters special offices and trained personnel will be provided for their examination.

25. Collecting agencies.—Documents are collected by reconnaissance detachments, front-line units, or other units effecting capture, from enemy dead, prisoners of war, and lately vacated enemy fortifications and installations; by graves registration units from enemy dead; by medical units from the enemy sick and wounded; by the censorship service from prisoners' mail; and by specially designated intelligence personnel from vacated enemy command post and business and governmental offices.

26. Classification.—*a. As to origin.*—Depending upon origin, documents may be classified as personal or official.

(1) Personal documents, such as post cards, letters, diaries, pay cards, and identifying marks are usually found on prisoners. The habit of preserving letters is so strong that, in any war with a civilized nation, they will always be a source of information in spite of the efforts of the enemy to break up the practice. Pay cards or service records captured in quantity make it possible to follow the whole process of recruitment, call to the colors, training, replacement, and hospitalization. Documents of this class are generally of little or no use in the lower echelons. They are of more importance to army and theater headquarters, for as a whole they tend to clarify the situation in the hostile army and country.

(2) Official documents are so varied in their nature that all units will find them useful sources of information. Corps and lower echelons should check official documents of a general nature, such as maps and operations and training orders, for information which can be immediately exploited. Among the most important official documents which may be captured are enemy codes, ciphers, and other cryptographic material. Work sheets used in the cryptographing of messages are of particular importance. Whenever an enemy message center or cryptographer is captured, special search should be made for codes, ciphers, and other cryptographic material.

b. As to military value.—Depending upon the nature of the information contained therein, documents may be classified as of immediate or general value.

(1) *Immediate value.*—Field orders, situation and operation maps, and documents giving projected operations or plans for the movement of important troop units are of immediate value. Information from documents of this kind should be transmitted to higher headquarters and affected adjacent units by the most expeditious means available.

(2) *General value.*—Tactical and technical manuals, war diaries, maps and aerial photographs, letters, newspapers, and other documents generally contain information which, though it cannot be immediately exploited, may assist in developing and keeping up-to-date the enemy order of battle or in clarifying the state of morale in the hostile army and country.

27. *Transmission.*—*a.* Documents captured by front line troops or reconnaissance detachments should be examined briefly for information of immediate importance to the regimental commander and then forwarded to the division G-2 by the guard conducting prisoners to the rear. Captured codes, ciphers, and cryptographic material will be transmitted to army or theater headquarters by the most rapid means of transportation available.

b. At the division collecting points, intelligence officers examine documents for additional information of immediate tactical importance. Time permitting, the documents found on each individual should be tied together in a package and tagged with a card inscribed "Information from prisoner or deserter," as prescribed in paragraph 13 *a.* The individual packages pertaining to the same company should be tied up and put in a sack. The company sacks of the same regiment should then be placed in a larger sack and marked with the number of the regiment and the place and date of capture. These precautions are necessary if the examiner at the army or central prisoner of war enclosure is to have a prisoner's papers before him during the final examination.

c. Documents found on wounded prisoners by medical units will be marked with the prisoner's name and organization and turned over to the unit intelligence officer for proper disposition.

d. Documents found by the graves registration units will be marked with the soldier's name, organization, and place where found and then turned over to the nearest intelligence officer for proper disposition.

e. After appropriate examination by the division, corps, and army echelons, all documents will be consolidated and forwarded to theater headquarters where trained intelligence personnel will subject them to final examination.

28. *Final examination.*—*a.* At theater headquarters, intelligence personnel qualified as translators of the enemy language will conduct the final examination. Proper organization of the work will expedite the examination. For this purpose all

documents will be subjected to a brief preliminary examination and divided into three groups:

- (1) Documents of immediate value.
- (2) Documents of probable or general value.
- (3) Documents of no value.

b. All documents of immediate value are then speedily and thoroughly examined and the information gleaned therefrom is prepared for transmittal to G-2. The documents are then suitably filed for future reference.

c. The documents of probable or general value are then examined and classified for file or destruction, depending upon their value. New tactical and technical regulations or instructions should be translated and forwarded to G-2 for transmittal to appropriate agencies for study.

d. Documents in code will be referred to the signal intelligence service.

e. All valueless documents will be destroyed.

SECTION V

CAPTURED MATÉRIEL

29. *General.*—The adoption of a new or improved weapon, type of ammunition, or article of equipment by the enemy may have an influence upon tactics and the course of development or improvement of our own means of defense or attack. Therefore, provision will be made for the assembly and test of new equipment or matériel encountered in the course of operations.

30. *Responsibility.*—The collection and study of captured equipment and matériel is an intelligence function of the supply arms and services. Appropriate specialists of the supply arms and services in the various echelons of command will examine captured equipment and matériel for new or improved types and will send selected examples to the communications zone or zone of the interior for further study and test.

31. *Aviation equipment.*—*a.* The Chief of the Air Corps will prepare, for issue to the proper agencies, lists of suggested questions for the guidance of intelligence personnel in the study of hostile aviation.

b. Every enemy airplane that falls within our lines will be inspected by an intelligence officer of the Air Corps. If it is found that the aircraft or any part thereof possesses new

characteristics, it will be sent to the proper point in the communications zone or zone of the interior for further study.

32. Use of prisoner specialists.—Prisoners of war familiar with the technical features of captured matériel may be sent to designated points in the communications zone or zone of the interior where enemy equipment and technical matters are being tested or studied in order that our own technicians may benefit by their special knowledge.

